

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 SCI-06 GAC-01 SCEM-02 AEC-11 SAJ-01

EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /174 W

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R 172332 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5486

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

UNCLAS MEXICO 2621

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TECH, MX, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET OFFER ASSIST GOM IN MANUFACTURE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS

1. 'EL HERALDO' OF APRIL 17 CARRIES ITEM DATED APRIL 16 MOSCOW WHICH GIVES RESULT OF APRIL 16 INTERVIEW THERE WITH NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY (INEN) PRESIDENT, DR. FERNANDO ALBA ANDRADE, WHO PRESENTLY ACCOMPANYING GOM CHIEF EXECUTIVE ECHEVERRIA IN USSR VISIT.

2. PRESS ITEM HEADLINE STATES, QTE AMPLE POSSIBILITIES THAT MEXICO MAY BECOME FIRST NUCLEAR POWER IN LATIN AMERICA UNQTE. CONTINUES TO EFFECT GOM WILL INITIATE INDUSTRIAL PROGRAM INCLUDING MANUFACTURE OF BREEDER REPEAT BREEDER REACTORS, WILL HAVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM SOVIET SCIENTISTS ON CONTINUING BASIS ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL AGREEMENT TO THAT EFFECT IN WRITING; AS FIRST STEP MEXICO WILL ESTABLISH RESEARCH GROUP TO STUDY AND SELECT MANUFACTURING SYSTEM NECESSARY, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON DUAL PURPOSE BREEDER REACTOR TYPES.

3. REPORT REFERS TO JOINT INEN- CFE (FEDERAL ELECTRICITY COMMISSION) VISIT TO SBERDOLASK IN THE URALS WHERE LIGHT WATER, GRAPHITE MODERATED REACTOR (KURCHATUB) IN OPERATION, SIMILAR TO UNCLASSIFIED

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THAT PLANNED FOR LAGUNA VERDE.

4. GOM TEAM, ACCORDING TO PRESS ITEM, PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN COMMERCIAL TYPE BREEDER REACTOR NOW BEING BUILT AT SVERDLOVAK, WHICH THEY ALSO VISITED, SECOND OF ITS TYPE IN USSR, FIRST BEING IN OPERATION ON CASPEAN SEA. THIS INTEREST CENTERS ON USE OF LIQUID SODIUM COOLANT AND U238 AS FUEL.

5. THOSE ACCOMPANYING ALBA ON PRESENT TRIP ARE LUIS GALVEZ CRUZ, SUBIDRECTOR, INEN, CARLOS GRAEF FERNANDEZ, INEN COUNSELOR, CARLOS VELEZ OF SALAZAR NUCLEAR CENTER AND JUAN EIBENSCHUTZ OF CFE.

6. EXCHANGE OF EXPERTS AND YOUNG TECHNICIANS ALSO CONTEMPLATED.

7. THIS IS FIRST EMBASSY HAS HEARD OF GOM INTEREST IN BREEDER REACTOR.

MCBRIDE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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30 JUN 2005

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